

GALT TRAFFIC



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DECEMBER 1997

Happy Holidays

from all your friends at Galt

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### **GALT HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE DEC 7**

This is a biggie so don't miss it -- Sunday, Dec. 7th, 1-4 pm at Galt Airport. Plenty of good food and drink, lots of socializing and another fantastic raffle by Carla! (With practically as many prizes as tickets!)

Carla is gratefully accepting any and all prize donations. Tickets are available at the office for \$1 each or 6 for \$5. All proceeds benefit the Hughes Scholarship Fund at McHenry H S. East Campus.

### **WINTER'S 'ERE ALREADY, 'EH?**

**Winter hours are 8 am to 5 pm.**

The **grass runway and taxiway** are closed for the rest of the winter.

Use caution when plowing is in progress -- **watch for plow vehicles** -- they have no comm. radios and may not be able to see or hear you.

**If parking overnight**, please park alongside logs (North side of lot) to facilitate snow removal.

Winter is a very **busy time for annuals**. Please call to schedule 6 - 8 weeks in advance to assure a time slot of your choosing.

Enjoy winter and remember, it could be worse. You could live "Up North" where they say, "we have four seasons -- early winter, mid winter, late winter and next winter".

### **...AND THIS JUST IN...**

Kansas City -- (June 9, 1910) "J. C. Mars was flying his Curtis Skylark north of Soldier Creek when a fast Rock Island train sucked the air from below his plane causing him to crash. The Longren brothers from Clay Center helped repair the plane for more flights."

Egad! One more thing to watch out for!

### **BONNY OFF TO U S AIR EXPRESS**

Congratulations to Bonny Pannhausen who is leaving us for an airline job. Bonny will be missed around Galt. Join us in wishing her a great career.

### **LOW COST GPS DATABASES?**

The Nov. *AOPA Pilot* reports that the FAA has responded to AOPA's request and "...hopes to have a plan for free or low-cost distribution of GPS database information by next August". FAA already maintains the data base, they just have to figure out how to disseminate it. -- Your AOPA dues dollars at work!

### **EAA 932 MEETING DEC 20**

We're beating the bushes for folks like you to join our local EAA Chapter. Why not 'check us out' and attend our next regular chapter meeting at Galt at 10:00 am Dec. 20. First, you could get rich quick on our 50/50 raffle. Then we'll talk about old business, new business and monkey business. After all that, we'll fly-out (drive if the weather's stinko) to lunch.

You don't have to have half an airplane in your garage or basement to be an EAAer. You don't even have to be a pilot. All you need is an interest in some facet of aviation. It may be warbirds, antiques/classics, home-builts, modeling, rotorcraft, ultralights, or maybe you just like airplanes in general. EAA is all of these and more. You'll also be supporting an organization that supports us in Washington and the state capitols.

We have an ambitious calendar for 1998 and want all the participation we can get. Young Eagles, Flying Start, Bomb Drop & Weenie Roast, monthly fly-outs, 2nd Annual Big Pig Roast... Is there something you'd like to get involved with? Come and talk about it.

### **"CUBBY" PROJECT**

Four Chapter 932 members are building a Wag Aero "Cubby" (Piper Cub clone) in the chapter hangar at Galt. If you're interested in tube and fabric construction, you're welcome to stop by any Monday or Thursday evening after 6:30 and have a look.

## AIRPORT (STATION) IDs

In the early days of aviation, airport identifier codes had a lot to do with radio station identifiers and teletype addresses. (Anybody remember teletypes?) Three letter codes were descriptive. MDW for Midway, MKE for Milwaukee, RFD for Rockford.

As our airways structure developed, more airports, nav-aids, wx. reporting stations and wx. radar sites needed identifiers. As three letter combinations ran short, they began to come up with IDs like, CGX, (Meigs), IGQ, (Lansing, MI), and AVP, (Wilkes-Barre-Scranton, PA.) Before they were reduced to using combinations such as XYZ, which doesn't signify much, they began using letters and digits which greatly expanded the number of possible combinations, even though it made for such gems as, well, say... 10C.

Do you know :

- Why Washington, DC, is DCA instead of WDC, and why Kansas City, Mo. is MKC, not KCM?
- Why Nashville is BNA, instead of , say, NAS?
- Why Madison, WI. is MSN instead of MAD?
- Why Galt isn't GAL, or maybe GLT?
- A. IDs starting with W and K were reserved for commercial broadcast stations. (W east of the Mississippi and K west, with a few exceptions.)
- B. IDs starting with N were reserved for naval air stations.
- C. Madrid, Spain got it (MAD) first. (Since then it's also been assigned to a VOR in CT.)
- D. Galena, Ak. (GAL) and Gladstone, Queensland, Australia (GLT) had first dibs.

Nowadays there are duplications of three letter codes worldwide, but not in the same country. For this reason, all ICAO flight plans and international weather reports use four letter (no digits) IDs. U. S. stations are the same three letter code prefixed with the letter K, thus ORD becomes KORD and MKE, KMKE. Canadian stations use the prefix C, so Toronto, YYZ, becomes CYYZ, etc. There are not enough letters for every country, so smaller countries are grouped in regions. For instance, Spain and France are in region L. They use the region code, a country code, then a two letter city code. Madrid Spain is LEMD; region L, country E (España) and the city code MD. Paris Charles De Gaulle is LFPG; region L, country E (France) city P (Paris) airport G (De Gaulle). (Paris Orly is LFPO.)

So, is Galt 'K10C'? Nope. It's not in the international data base. You'll just have to file to KMKE or KRFD next time you return from abroad. Change your destination to 10C once back in U.S. airspace. ....Now go to jail -- you forgot to clear customs!

## FIRST SOLO / NEW RATINGS

Congratulations to Jayson Rishling on his first solo Nov. 21. Also, to Leann McMonigal and Chris Noskowitz; newly rated instrument pilots.

## THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

"A recent study shows that there are some three million GPS users worldwide. A million of them are in Japan...which has virtually no general aviation. Most of the Japanese GPS units are in cars." (*Sport Aviation*, Nov. 1997)

It may be hard for Americans to imagine a country without general aviation, but some of us who have been in it for a long time have watched it become smaller and more restrictive as the years go by. For example, around 1975 the FAA called for "periodic re-certification of airmen". The opposition, led by AOPA and EAA, got this reduced to the requirements for the biennial flight review and renewable CFIs. Next time you get ready for your BFR or CFI renewal, consider whether you'd rather be headed to the local FSDO for an oral and a flight test! And you Part 61 CFIs won't have to take that random drug test that might have been, either. Other examples of what 'might have been' could fill many, many articles like this!

Please help EAA and AOPA help all of us by becoming a member of each. Their fine magazines *Sport Aviation* and *AOPA Pilot* are worth the cost of membership alone -- or, we can just take our GPSs and put them in our cars, boats or riding mowers.

**JOIN NOW: AOPA 1-800-USA-AOPA**

**JOIN NOW: EAA 1-800-JOIN EAA**

## DECEMBER CALENDAR

**Fly-ins and outs & \$100 Pancakes**

Again, all the action is south of the Mason-Dixon line and west of the Pecos. Consult the current edition of *Sport Aviation*.

## 1998 PLANNER

**Apr 19 - 25 Sun 'n Fun** Lakeland, FL

**Jul 18 & 19 United States Airshow** Dayton, OH

**Jul 29 - Aug 4 Oshkosh '98** Oshkosh, WI

**Sep 7 - 13 Farnborough Int'l. '98** U.K.

**Sep 17 - 20 Reno Air Races** Reno, NV

**Oct 23 - 25 AOPA Expo '98** Palm Springs, Ca.

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